

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

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Headquarters, DOC Facilities Earn ACA Reaccreditation

(Baton Rouge) Auditors from the American Correctional Association (ACA) recently gave high marks to several Louisiana correctional facilities and DPS&C Headquarters as they conducted a thorough review of personnel and procedures during the reaccreditation process. ACA accreditation is a voluntary process, but one that is tremendously important to the overall safety of the public, correctional staff and offenders.

Louisiana is one of only three fully accredited correctional systems in the country. The ACA requires reaccreditation every three years. Some of the things auditors look for include:

- * Written policy and procedures to establish a training and staff development program for all employees
- * Assessments that cover administration and management, the physical plant, institutional operations and services and inmate programs
- * Quality of life concerns such as adequacy of medical services, sanitation, use of segregation and detention, incidents of violence, crowding, offender activity levels and provisions of basic services that may impact the life, safety and health of offenders and staff

"Accreditation is a good indication of the high levels of safety and professionalism in our institutions," explains Secretary Richard L. Stalder. "Also, by meeting the high standards set by the ACA, DPS&C saves money on liability insurance costs and protects the state from certain lawsuits."

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The following facilities were recently reaccredited. (Note: Facilities must score at least 90% on non-mandatory standards to earn reaccreditation and 100% mandatory).

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Mandatory Stds.</u>	<u>Non-Mandatory Stds.</u>
Allen Correctional Center	100%	99%
Louisiana State Penitentiary	100%	99.3%
David C. Knapps Training Academy (LSP)	100%	100%
DPS&C Headquarters	100%	100%
J. Levy Dabadie Correctional Center	100%	99.2%
Avoyelles Correctional Center	100%	99.2%

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